



Kamp

Kanawana

## KAMP KANAWANA 1975

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

#### INTRODUCTION

The eighty-second year of Kamp Kanawana has come to an end. It is our objective to provide programs that will encourage the growth and development of young people in an outdoor setting. It is very exciting and often dramatic to see the positive change in people at Kanawana. This leads to the belief that we are attaining our goals for operation.

Kamp Kanawana '75 has been the best year of the past three years. Our kampers benefited greatly by their experiences this summer. This report is intended to give an honest impression of this year as well as to recognize areas requiring improvement or change for Kanawana '76.

#### KAMPERS

This summer, we worked with 475 different children. The kampers came from many parts of Canada, the U.S., Europe and even a country that I've never heard of (Abu Dhabi). Kanawana accepted children from an orphanage, Weredale House and also sponsored approximately 25 underprivileged children.

Our registration surpassed our budget amount of 1225 kamper weeks in early June with a final total of 1356 kamper weeks (1264 in 1974 and 1276 in 1973).

The returnee rate of kampers again increased percentage-wise to 46.8% from 45.2% last year as it did numerically.

#### STAFF

This season kamp had a significant increase of program staff average to 21.25 years from 19 years in 1974.

Staff recruitment commenced in December 1974. Quite consciously, our returnee rate decreased from 72% last season to 52% this year. Most of Kanawana's new staff were in senior capacities.

I was very pleased with most of our staff but was also disappointed in performance of others due to their selfish attitude in working with other staff. This diverse minority of staff certainly did not help in the operations this summer and caused feelings of frustration with other staff including myself at times.

### Staff Continued

Most staff individually did fine jobs in working with their kampers. The dedication and concern of these staff has enriched the lives of many children and certainly will be remembered for a lifetime.

The organization and supervision of the four sections were well handled by our Section Directors: Judy Harper, Sheila Haughton, Denis Basquill and John Proctor. Their maturity and sensitivity made them most effective in their work. I sincerely thank them for their consistent dedication and co-operation throughout the summer.

Stuart McLean was the Assistant Kamp Director for his second year. He has made an outstanding contribution to Kanawana. His warm outgoing personality together with his genuine interest and ability to help people has endeared him to all who have had the opportunity of working with him. He has done much to contribute to the growth of many Kanawanians and kamp itself. I would like to express my deep appreciation to Stuart for his contribution and support.

### STAFF TRAINING

Our pre-kamp program was drastically changed this year from previous years but disappointingly was not as effective as was hoped. It would have been suitable for our 1974 staff but due to the lower returnee rate of staff this summer, it lacked the appropriate direction and structure. Notwithstanding this weakness, its' looseness' enabled us to more readily recognize difficulties in staff and deal with them accordingly. A definite highlight that should be continued was a two day session held with various instructors at the Mont St. Hilaire Nature Conservation Centre. It clearly made an impression on our staff and generated a real concern and awareness for our natural environment.

I believe that more detailed advance planning with various staff should enable us to create a relevant and appropriate training program for 1976.

PROGRAM AREAS

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(For more detail, see the Assistant Kamp Director's report)

Arts & Crafts:

Jan Chartrand and her staff again did a fine job in this area. However, I do believe that we can attempt more nature crafts in the future.

Sports:

This started off well especially for the younger kampers. However, more planning is required next summer.

Jazz Dancing:

This was a new interest group and was well received thanks to its instructor, Sonia Barnes. It certainly should be continued.

Nature Lore:

Once again, we failed miserably. I am convinced that a very experienced and skilled person is required for this very important aspect of kamp.

Music:

(Folk Guitar) This was popular and well received by a small number of kampers.

Orienteering:

Thanks to the maps from the Montreal Orienteering Association and especially to our skilled and enthusiastic instructor, Gaby Duguay, this interest group (after attempting it since '73) grew in popularity very rapidly. Over 150 different kampers participated and received certificates of participation.

Drama:

Due to interest expressed, a drama interest group was created. Approximately 30 different kampers participated in the preparations and presentation of three one-act plays.

Junior Waterfront:

The instruction as well as the program was very pleasantly and efficiently directed for the second year in a row by Katie Sheahan. She, with her crew of instructors, either taught or helped improve the swimming of many kampers.

Senior Waterfront:

Unfortunately, I cannot say the same here as the Junior Waterfront. The Senior Waterfront Director was most ineffective in his methods of working with most other staff. The instructions went on but in a very uncomfortable atmosphere. After repeated attempts on my and Stuart's part, we were unable to initiate any improvement and consequently, the Senior Waterfront Director was asked to leave during the fourth session of kamp.

Hike & Trip:

We were fortunate this summer to recruit a very experienced and capable Hike & Trip Director, Dick Mischook. Dick and his department successfully sent out a great quantity and variety of canoe trips, hikes and overnights.

Due to Kanawana's past trip logs and records together with Dick's knowledge of trips from Powter's Camp, we were able to decrease the distance needed for trucking trips out and maintain the various desired wilderness experiences.

I should also mention that Dick obtained exclusive permission for Kanawana to send canoe trips to Parc Joliette. My sincere thanks to him for his tremendous work this summer.

Counsellor-in-Training Program:

Once again, our C.I.T. program has improved. Under the excellent direction of Lynne Robinson, the C.I.T.s were exposed to sessions in group work, the history of Kanawana and the YMCA, on-the-job experiences, a canoe trip as well as skill training in canoeing, campcraft, lifesaving, etc.

Most of the C.I.T.s are now prepared to assume staff positions at Kanawana and other kamps next summer.

Some improvements are, however, needed next year and these are explained in Lynne's report.

PROMOTION

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The following was the promotion program for the 1975 season.

- A new brochure was developed for Kanawana, Les Voyageurs and C.I.T. program as well as including all other camp type programs of the Montreal Y. 3,200 were distributed or mailed with the balance of the 7,000 produced to be used for 1976.
- On behalf of the Quebec Camping Association, the Kanawana Director was interviewed on CBC radio as well as in the Montreal Star and Gazette.
- Kanawana decals were given out to all registered kampers with their information booklets.
- The kamp's bi-monthly newspaper 'The Green Triangle' had four issues.
- Kanawana postcards were included with one of the Green Triangle issues.
- The Kanawana cartoon map idea was resurrected and copies were given to all.
- Kanawana Christmas cards were sent out to former kampers from the last three years.
- A Kamp Kanawana reunion was held in March with attendance by over 200 Kanawanians.
- The Y's P.R. Department enabled brochures to be distributed at Eaton's among other places.
- Advertisements were placed in various local newspapers as well as the Gazette and Star.
- Brochures were placed in all Branches of the Montreal Y.

## HEALTH & SAFETY

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Due to our exceptionally warm weather this summer, the water level of the lake was down about one foot and the water temperature was up about 5° F. These factors caused a great increase in the bacteria count of our lake water. Consequently, we experienced many colds, sore throats and ear aches, etc.

I should add that our Nurse, Mrs. Diane Gray, did an admirable job in coping with the many patients at our infirmary.

## FOOD SERVICES

Due to the very capable supervision of Ed Neal from the Downtown Branch and the cooking abilities of our Head Chef, Mrs. Madeline Wundelle, the quality and variety of hearty meals once again greatly improved (as did the cost increase).

There is still a need for some more equipment in the kitchen (i.e. mixer and exhaust fan). This will be investigated in greater detail this fall.

As in 1974, we had difficulties in retaining staff in our kitchen. It is believed that an experienced and older staff is required to avoid this situation in the future.

## PHYSICAL SITE

Some major work was done this summer but as always, it seems that there is no end to it.

Some things done were: replacing the Junior Waterfront  
                      "              " wash areas  
                      "              " 'carwash' system  
rebuilding the walk-in fridge  
refinishing and painting the  
lodge and staff lounge

Presently, there are various projects in process. There are numerous other pieces of work required before next summer. Some of these are urgently needed (i.e. septic field - girls section) and should be thoroughly studied, prioritized this fall and perhaps some should be started by the end of September '75.

## SOME OTHER SPECIFIC RECOMMENDATIONS

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1. Due to the difficulty we and other camps have in relevant programming with 15 year olds, a two year Counsellor-in Training (or Leader-in-Training) program should be investigated along the lines of the Hamilton Y's Camp Wanakita.
2. In order to assist in discouraging cancellations, an increase of the registration deposit might be in order.
3. 'Meeting the Chief' is very boring for stay-over kampers (and staff). This could be done at the Farmhouse next year during our regular change-over procedure.
4. A break of perhaps 3 days between the second and third session could be a feasible solution to many things, i.e. tired staff, maintenance problems, staff days off interfering with interest groups and proper kamp operation, etc. Some sort of discussion is required.
5. As canoes are constantly in need of repair, particularly after trips, the purchase of some kind of tripping canoes (perhaps fibreglass) would greatly enhance and assist both our tripping and in-kamp canoeing.
6. Summer staff salaries must again be adjusted in order to retain and attract a more competent staff.
7. The feasibility of post-kamp canoe trips for invited kampers should be investigated.
8. A new truck and wagon should be leased next summer. (The Kamp Director's car travelled over 2,000 miles on kamp business this summer).

The truck could be used solely for trips while the wagon for various messages, emergencies or trips to Montreal.
9. A fall conference for potential '76 staff could be most useful for Kanawana in the development of recommendations for our program, policies, etc. for next summer. Work on this should begin soon.

## CONCLUSION

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I said at the beginning of this report that I felt this was the best of the past three years. Although I am, in some ways disappointed with this year, I still have deep feeling of respect and appreciation for what it is - the glories of our nature plus the friendship of many.

Each staff member in doing their job must give much of themselves and those who give of themselves get much in return. I would like to express my personal thank to Kamp Kanawana staff '75.

The two people who I work with: Julien Tasse and Olga Hall - my sincerest thanks for their patience, understanding and dedication to Kanawana - for without these two fine people, we would not have gone as far as we have.

I see the future of Kanawana as very exciting. As national trends indicate a loss in popularity in traditional resident camping, we are fortunate to maintain our registration. With the future plans for the Camping and Outdoor Education Branch, soon to become reality, I believe that we will continue to grow and help people grow in the same way we have been doing for years.

To the future successes of Kanawana!

Respectfully submitted,

Derek V. Walsh,  
Director,  
Kamp Kanawana '75.

APPRECIATION

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The successes of Kamp Kanawana each summer are due to many different people who very generously assist us in a variety of ways. A sincere thanks to the following:

Eric Smart for assisting with the setting up of our sailing program.

Richard (Itche) Kerr who filled in as a counsellor for a week when we were short.

The Westmount, Northwestern, Downtown and Lachine-Dorval Branches for lending us rooms for our parents' meetings.

Ron Whittingham, our Controller, for his advice on financial and legal matters.

To various O.F.Y. groups for presenting skits or training to us.

Tom Thompson for obtaining a film and new postcards for Kamp Kanawana.

Our seventeen Counsellors-in-Training for their work and assistance at Kamp this summer.

Colin Kirk of the Montreal Orienteering Association for assisting with the organization of our orienteering program.

Our many neighbours who so generously permit us to use their property for camping.

Dr. Bernard Villemaire for his advice on health matters and attending to our sick.

Ross Bannerman, Kerry Johnston and Tom Potts for their guidance and advice on many aspects of kamp.

The staff of the Montreal YMCA for their continued encouragement and co-operation.

The Kanawana Committee and the Branch Board of Management for their hundreds of hours of work in preparing Kamp Kanawana '75.

THANKS AGAIN!

## KAMP KANAWANA TEN YEAR SUMMARY

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<u>Age of Campers</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
6							3	(1)		1
7	10	13	11	(2)	4	5	4	9	(1)	10 (5) 8 (3)
8	53	40	56	(7)	46	(6)	41	(9)	33 (5)	29 (8) 34 (11)
9	69	64	93	(13)	84	(35)	76	(29)	55 (25)	45 (11) 47 (16)
10	93	84	115	(7)	124	(36)	98	(40)	71 (33)	57 (24) 68 (34)
11	107	80	92	(7)	97	(21)	104	(47)	78 (35)	81 (35) 75 (33)
12	75	61	83	(5)	104	(26)	95	(32)	90 (37)	76 (39) 68 (31)
13	52	42	71	(1)	75	(22)	86	(26)	65 (27)	74 (38) 76 (36)
14	20	27	35	(1)	62	(11)	42	(13)	57 (21)	55 (29) 71 (48)
15	11	10	12	(1)	23	(3)	18	(6)	32 (12)	18 (11) 22 (14)
16	1		3		2		7	(1)	7 (2)	4 (2) 5 (3)
17	1				1					
									TOTAL	
									449 (198)	475 (229)

Stay in Camp

1 Week	1	2	2	(1)	1	4	(4)	1		
2	334	304	416	(46)	464	(131)	432	(145)	362 (141)	375 (155) 312 (111) 324 (152)
3	9	11	5	(1)	17	(1)	11	(1)	12 (6)	2 (1) 1 - -
4	120	81	132	(16)	111	(20)	106	(46)	104 (46)	123 (52) 118 (48) 115 (62)
5 weeks & up	2	6	0		2		2		1 (1)	1 - - - -
6 " " "	17	13	15	(1)	20	(7)	13	(7)	9 (3)	13 (4) 4 - 24 (10)
7 " " "	5	3	6	(1)	7	(1)	4		4 (1)	6 (3) - - - -
8 " " "									14 (2)	12 (5)

KAMP KANAWANA '75

RESULTS OF KAMPER QUESTIONNAIRE

PROGRAM:

In Order of Popularity:

	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u># Responses</u>
1.	Canoeing	Arts & Crafts	109
2.	Arts & Crafts	Canoeing	78
3.	Canoe Trips	Sailing	69
4.	Swimming	Swimming	37
5.	Sailing	Dances	27
6.	Campfires	Jazz Ballet	26
7.	Hikes	Campfires	26
8.	Archery	Snorkling	26
9.	Free Periods	Hikes	25
10.	Boating	Archery	21
11.	All Camp Programs	Canoe Trips	20
12.	Nature Lore	Gunelling	18
13.	Projects	Orienteering	17
14.	Fishing	Kamp Kraft	16
15.	Diving	Diving	12
16.	Snorkling	Boating	11
17.		Lumbermen-Voyageurs	11
18.		Music	17
19.		Klondike Day	8
20.		Drama	6
21.		Green Triangle	6
22.		Cook-outs	5
23.		House-League Program	5
24.		Pajama Breakfast)	
25.		Project )	
26.		Sports )	4
27.		Nature Lore )	

From what you have heard, what do you think of the food?  
(178 responses)

	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
Excellent	9%	8%
Very Good	25%	34%
Good	35%	37%
Fair	23%	19%
Poor	5%	2%

What is your appraisal of the Kamp?  
(160 responses)

	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
Excellent	28%	29%
Very Good	60%	56%
Good	12%	14%
Fair	0	.5%
Poor	0	.5%

How did you hear about Kanawana?  
(97 responses)

	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
Friend or Neighbour	30%	38.1%
Advertising	14.9%	9.2%
Quebec Camping Association	?	6.1%
YMCA	15%	20.3%
School	2.4%	4.1%
Relative of former kamper	3.6%	20.6%
Previous Kamper	28%	
Staff Member	?	5.1%

OUT OF SEASON - GROUPS PARTICIPATION '75

(To September 8, 1975)

	<u>Nights</u>	<u>People</u>	<u>People/Night</u>
<u>Y Groups:</u>			
Wilderness Survival	2	10	20
West Island	2	18	36
" "	2	30	60
Downtown Branch (Camping)	1	12	12
International Branch	3	30	90
Northwestern Branch	1	52	52
Montreal YMCA (Picnic)		125	
Germany YMCA		25	
Sault Ste Marie		20	
Voyageurs	10	20	200
Other	5	5	25
<u>Schools:</u>			
Dawson College	4	40	160
Valois Park School	2	30	60
Rosemere High (Camping)	1	12	12
St. Paul's School	2	93	186
Beaconsfield High	4	81	324
Montrose Elementary	3	110	330
<u>Other:</u>			
Mary Queen of Peace Cubs	2	36	72
Resurrection Cubs & Scout	2	45	90
Marion Home for the Exceptional	25	30	750
Le Chalet (OFY)	3	35	105
Chateauguay Canoe Club	1	20	20
St. Raphael's Centre	4	78	312
TOTAL	79	957	2,916

GOD'S BACK YARD

Close your eyes and think real hard  
Imagine kamp as God's back yard.  
The grass so green, the hills so tall  
Close your eyes and think of all  
The beauty of our life at kamp,  
The morning sun on the grass so damp.  
Flags in a circle from countries brave  
Close your eyes and see them wave.

Children together and children apart  
Some grown up and some ready to start.  
Can you picture your cabin or a favorite tree?  
Close your eyes and try to see  
The sounds of night time, dark and still  
The laughter from a far away hill.  
Remember the good times with friends old and new.  
Take all of these memories home with you.  
Yes, we've worked together and played so hard,  
At Kanawana, in God's back yard.

.....Joan Dalrymple